

Hello Eric,

Being a longtime Sausalito resident, a ferry commuter & cyclist, I'm very interested in what happens re the ferry landing in the center of our downtown.

I've attended 2 meetings & read extensively about the project. Clearly, the current ferry landing needs an update, and possibly also a re-design, to address issues of safety, increased crowds, & the transition to bicycle transportation. So here are some of my thoughts & requests, which I would like to have heard & considered.

\* There are more issues involved in the explosion of bicycle traffic than just the ferry landing & access. Our town has been heavily burdened by the sudden deluge of bikes that occurred 3 years ago. There has been much attention & planning to address the problems, including with the GGB district & S.F. bike rental businesses. Some progress has been made, and more is coming. A bigger plan is being developed to divert the S.F. bike crowds from riding into downtown, and instead having a staging area in the Fort Baker area. This will hopefully relieve the number of bikes relying on the GGFerry to get back to S.F. The current heavy demand is a temporary problem, and not a major or valid reason to over-expand the ferry landing area.

\* The pictures shown us @ last night's City Council meeting were a dreadful shock to me. The design is too massive, too industrial looking, visually over-kill, and not at all in the character of our small historical & waterfront village. It might look great leading into a prison, or an industrial office complex. The cold steel gate expresses "Do Not Enter", instead of giving a welcoming message of "Welcome to Sausalito". The size of the pier is wider than is needed for foot traffic, and I see no need to build it for simultaneous 2-way traffic, nor for accommodating a bus or truck. From the current 8' width, I'd prefer expanding to 14'-16' width, which surely is adequate for its purpose.

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\* Sausalito has a Building Commission and a Design Review Board which are responsible for evaluating & approving all major construction proposals. I understand that they have not yet been included in this project. Please use them; they are good, and they represent the village's and residents' best interests. They are ready to work together with your representatives to develop a plan that will serve both the functional needs of the project, and the aesthetic of Sausalito.

I regret that I am unable to attend the meeting on Thursday 12-4-14. Please consider my thoughts & suggestions as the project evolves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Joan Procter, resident of Sausalito

Mr. Buehmann: I attended a city of Sausalito council meeting last night. The council was requested to put the proposed waterside project on the next city council meeting agenda (December 2, 2014) so that we could give some feedback about our concern about waterside plans. They refused.

As one citizen of many, I am amazed and disturbed that our council again denies any need for public input on the waterside portion of this project. So I am writing to the BCDC and the GG Bridge district to ask for your assistance in allowing our town to have some voice in this process.

We look forward to meeting with you at your next meeting and hopefully your organization will take our concerns seriously.

Sincerely,  
Susan Shea

On 11/30/14 1:59 PM, "Barbara Kolden" wrote:

Dear Mr Buehmann,

As a longtime resident of Sausalito I am appalled at the size of the proposed expansion of the ferry dock. I understand the need to renovate and improve the existing structure, however the proposal is huge and would impact the shoreline area in a negative way. There is very little natural shoreline left in Sausalito, and though this area is already developed any additional expansion is cause for concern. I hope you will take into account the environmental impact this expansion will have.

This proposed structure is not in the interests of Sausalito residents, but is advantageous to the Golden Gate Transit Authority and others who will benefit monetarily from this. Please do not approve this design as it is now proposed. Hopefully a modified smaller structure can be presented that will not have such a massive presence on our beautiful bay.

Thank you for your consideration,

Barbara Kolden

Dear Mr. Buehmann:

I'm writing to express my concerns about the plans under consideration for the Sausalito Ferry Landing.

It is my understanding the proposed plan adds almost 7,000 feet of increased bay fill, as well as expanding the pier from 8 feet currently to 25 feet proposed - as well as almost doubling the boat docking area.

I have lived in Sausalito for 25 years. I love the town and cherish the San Francisco bay.

Why do we need such a massive expansion for the Ferry landing in our small town of Sausalito?

Is increased revenue for business and bike companies really worth sacrificing the bay and adding 7,000 feet of bay fill?

Couldn't the city meet its goals with a much more modest proposal that adds less concrete, less volume and preserves both the bay and Sausalito's small town character?

It is because of the BCDC that San Francisco Bay is healthy and protected.

I applaud the work and careful planning that is the result of BCDC and ask that you give careful consideration to this project -

ih the hopes you will ask Sausalito to reduce the proposal significantly.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lynn Keller

Sent to Sausalito City Mgr, 11-23-14:

apolitzer at ci dot sausalito dot ca dot us  
11-23-2014

Please add my vote to the opposition to this proposal. Sausalito should be a downtown for the community, not a launching place for increasing Park visitors.

Bridgeway is already so crowded with cars and-- more dangerously--- bicycles that as resident in north Sausalito I avoid going even to Caledonia.

I hadn't realized that our community is being promoted internationally as a tourist destination, nor that the increasing hordes of novice bicyclists were being promoted by every group from BCDC to the local city council.

It has become neither "charming" nor safe in the past few years; its design should be governed by the needs, habits, and preferences of people who live here, work here, and come here for our local businesses. How did BCDC obtain control over a vital part of our community, the downtown itself.

The ferry expansion is a permanent turning point and a public design disaster.

There are caps on the number of visitors to Muir Woods-- and Sausalito should have the same. Why is Tiburon not similarly overwhelmed? Or the underutilized Larkspur Landing "Mart" (which is crying for tourists and visitors)? Couldn't bike riders be redirected to those ferries?

Further public safety thought-- there is only one way out of this tiny piece of shoreline as bay water levels rise with climate change-- why are BCDC funds not being directed to this increasing very real flooding at the Sausalito freeway exit, and bottleneck? Not at bringing more people to our tiny community.

In the case of an earthquake, urban fire, forest fire, or other disaster, there is no adequate evacuation possibility already-- Has anyone thought beyond the revenue plum that the SF Ferry offers by bringing more tourists to Sausalito (and \*whose\* Sausalito)?

Thinking further along the lines of the BCDC objectives, to make Sausalito a gateway to the National Park coastline, why choose downtown Sausalito as the access point?

Funds could be put into a ferry to the Manzanita area, with routes down Tennessee Valley into the park, no? Landfill in this area could mitigate the incredible flooding that already exists there and that's getting worse every month. Just one idea.

This is a regional disaster planning problem, the rise in bay waters, the flooding and the lack of evacuation routes, along with the cutting off of access to the 101 freeway, and to Mill Valley, already our only choice for basic shopping like the pharmacies and grocery stores.

The concept of a resident-based "Imagine Sausalito" has led to years of internal struggles among backers of a mirage. I hadn't even been aware of it. Nor of this proposed outcome.

Meanwhile, we need to think way beyond the ferry landing-- the new solution is only going to worsen an already serious and hazard-ridden problem.

Sincerely  
Penelope Posu

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Coro Fellow, Disaster Preparedness

I will not be able to attend the Dec. 4 BCDC review of Sausalito Ferry Terminal improvements and would like to submit the following comments:

1. In your letter you refer to "The Board's advice". The only Design Review Board that I know of in Sausalito that currently exists is the Planning Commission. This is an excellent body that deals with many planning problems, mostly having to do with zoning issues. It is not primarily a design oriented Board. To have meaningful community input on the redesign of the downtown area related to the Ferry Terminal, an appropriate board of citizens would have to be put together. No design assumptions should be made until a proper citizen group is put in place.
2. Exhibit 23 suggests some land side improvements. These are being made without appropriate community input. I particularly object to the placement of an enlarged bicycle staging area. This solution is giving priority to bicycles over pedestrians and, in my opinion is wrong. It is premature and inappropriate to make public a document with this amount of detail on it before proper community participation. It should be removed from the record.





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SOURCE: City of Sausalito, 2013

Best regards, Jacques Ullman

Jacques Ullman Architect 4004 El Portal St Sausalito CA 94965 (415) 330-0001 [jacquesullman@earthlink.net](mailto:jacquesullman@earthlink.net)



Dear Mr. Buchmann:

Regarding the upcoming December 4, 2014, BCDC meeting at which the Sausalito Ferry Terminal expansion will be discussed, the below letter to the BCDC Design Review Board, dated October 6, 2014, still applies. Please see that it is included in the Staff Report to the Commission and becomes part of the public record.

Thank you,

Bill Werner

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:**Sausalito Ferry Terminal Expansion

**Date:**Mon, 06 Oct 2014 16:07:13 o 0700

**From:**Bill Werner

**To:**[ellenm@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:ellenm@bcdc.ca.gov), [erikb@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:erikb@bcdc.ca.gov)

To: Ellen Kiramontes, Erik Buchmann, and All Design Review Board Members:

My name is Bill Werner. I am a resident of Sausalito and the Vice Chair of the Sausalito Planning Commission. I write to register my dismay at the arrogance of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's presumptions regarding the Landside Improvements necessary to the functioning of the proposed greatly expanded Ferry Terminal Facilities.

The present usage of the GG Ferries by the ever increasing hoards of rental bicycles has created hazardous conditions in the downtown area. It has also resulted in frustrating the commuters for whom the ferry system was originally intended.

In addition, the stated intention of the National Park Service to further impact this location by making it the "transportation hub" for shuttle access to Muir Woods is not mentioned in the Design Review project before you. In this case, the NPS is proposing to do great damage to the residents and citizens of Sausalito rather than addressing their problems on their own property in nearby Fort Baker.

The "Potential Improvements" indicated in Exhibit 23 of the Information Package are only words on paper. Without thorough analysis, design and definition of the potential consequences of the improvements, any response by this Design Review Board would be unwise and potentially damaging to the already stressed town of Sausalito. In fact, this whole project should be subject to a full CEQA analysis. The environmental consequences of the increased traffic alone would warrant such study.

Attached is a copy of Sausalito Ordinance No. 1128 which was the result of a Citizen's Initiative and requires a vote of the people when major changes to the existing parking lots and other city owned properties are proposed. This should be taken into account as a further law relevant to consideration of this project.

Finally, without the landside improvements designed, approved, voted on by the citizens of Sausalito, and, most importantly, funded, the proposed expansion of the Ferry Terminal would be our very own

version of the "bridge to nowhere".

Respectfully,

William A. Werner, AIA

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**Werner Associates Architects**

Mr. Buehmann: I attended a city of sausalito council meeting last night. The council was requested to put the proposed waterside project on the next city council meeting agenda (December 2, 2014) so that we could give some feedback about our concern about waterside plans. They refused.

As one citizen of many, I am amazed and disturbed that our council again denies any need for public input on the waterside portion of this project. So I am writing to the BCDC and the GG Bridge district to ask for your assistance in allowing our town to have some voice in this process.

We look forward to meeting with you at your next meeting and hopefully your organization will take our concerns seriously.

Sincerely,  
Susan Shea

Dear Mr. Buehmann:

I am a resident of Sausalito who is very interested in the proposed waterside work on the Sausalito ferry landing. I was surprised to hear through the grapevine that the landing work is scheduled for a Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) public hearing on December 4th.

I am in disbelief that the City of Sausalito has unilaterally determined that there has been adequate public input into this proposed project. A review of the "opportunities" cited by the City in defense of this determination reveals minor references on City agendas with no clear descriptions of the scope of the project nor opportunities for comment. The City's claim is disingenuous that such minor items satisfies the requirement for a full opportunity for public comment.

The motivation behind this waterside work appears primarily aimed at providing additional parking for rental bicycles. On November 11th, over 200 residents attended a privately-sponsored forum on bicycles, clearly evincing the public interest in the impact of bicycles on our community and particularly our downtown. The residents of Sausalito should not be denied the opportunity to provide input into the proposed ferry landing project.

I ask that BCDC encourage the City of Sausalito and the Golden Gate Bridge District to include the public in the discussion of the waterside portion of this large project. Proceeding without such input would be a travesty.

John Flavin

Hello Erik, I just learned today that the Sausalito Golden Gate Ferry landing project is scheduled for a BCDC public hearing on December 4th. I am writing to confirm that with you.

I am, also, writing to express continuing concern about the very minimal public process this project has had.

I hope that BCDC will take the residents' concerns to heart, and will encourage the City of Sausalito and the Golden Gate Bridge District to include the public in the discussion of the waterside portion of this large project.

Sincerely,  
Sonja Hanson  
522 Spring St.  
Sausalito, CA 94965  
415-332-6829

To Whom It May Concern -

I am a Sausalito resident of 30+ years who rides the ferry often & used to commute on it. I am well aware of the congestion issues caused in the recent few years by the onslaught of rental bikes coming from San Francisco and expecting to return via the GGFerry. I've attended several meetings on the subject, have shared my concerns & ideas with Linda Pheiffer on our City Council, and now appeal to your committee to be heard & considered.

Seeing the proposed plan for expansion of our ferry landing horrifies me. Not only is it way over-kill re size, it is stark & massive in design, more appropriate for a shopping mall or business complex than for our small village of 7,000 residents. To cement over massive areas of our downtown waterfront, where residents go for family picnics, children's play & sun bathing with friends would truly be a crime ! We citizens have fought thru the years to keep our town center attractive & inviting for our residents as well as for our many visitors.

Please look @ the pictures of the ferry landing in the downtown of Tiburon, which was improved & re-designed in recent years with excellent results for safety & efficiency, as well as safe-guarding the small nautical town's spirit & historical flavor. Tiburon residents as well as visitors from around Marin & beyond, all utilize the area for their casual recreations & patronize the adjacent businesses.

I'd welcome some upgrade of our own pier area, as long as the flavor & scale of it reflects Sausalito's ambiance and waterfront spirit. There is no need for a pier or landing area big enough to drive a large truck or bus onto the ferry !

As you may know, alternate solutions to the abundance of rental bike traffic are in the planning stages. It is likely that those bikes will eventually be gathered in another more appropriate area, not in downtown Sausalito.

The "rumor" that the Parks Dept wants to use Sausalito as a staging area for ever more Muir Woods visitors is worse than a nightmare !

As Sausalito is a village that's "home" to our 7,000 people, not a part of the State or National Park Systems, I trust that this "rumor" is only that, and not another threat to our town.

Respectfully submitted by one concerned senior, bike rider & ferry fan,

Joan Procter

On Mon, Dec 1, 2014 at 3:49 PM, Amezcua, Reyna@BCDC <[reyna.amezcua@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:reyna.amezcua@bcdc.ca.gov)> wrote:

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Erik Buehmann, Coastal Analyst ([415/352-3645](tel:4153523645); [erik.buehmann@bcdc.ca.gov](mailto:erik.buehmann@bcdc.ca.gov))

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing on BCDC Permit Application No. 2014.001.00 by Golden Gate Bridge,

Highway and Transportation District, for the Sausalito Ferry

Terminal Vessel Boarding

Rehabilitation Project in the City of Sausalito, Marin  
County

The meeting notice and application summary of the above-referenced application can be found on BCDC's website by

selecting the date of the meeting of December 4, 2014

<http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/meetings/commission/2014/1121Supplemental.shtml> or by logging onto (<http://www.bcdc.ca.gov>).

The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014, at the Port of San Francisco, Pier 1, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, California,

and beginning at 1:00 p.m. You may wish to send an observer to the hearing.

I'm a longtime resident of Sausalito, and am very concerned about this detrimental proposal.

Simply put, please don't vote for anything that will enable larger ferries to dock, with any increase in the # of passengers on board each ferry. We're grateful for the amount of tourists that now visit Sausalito, but don't want any increase in their numbers.

Do you agree?

Thank you- John Tompkins

Sent from my iPad



To: Erik Buehmann, Coastal Program Analyst, BCDC:

I am writing to protest the BCDC's opinion that the Sausalito Ferry Landing, a distinctly important aspect of Sausalito's waterfront, has not been reviewed by the Sausalito City Council. It seems clear that the Ferry Landing as proposed constitutes a major improvement and that it should without question qualify for City of Sausalito review. That this hasn't happened is grossly unjust.

That the gate will now be redesigned with City and citizen involvement is very good news. Sausalito's beauty, historic legacy, and art center reputation requires a ferry entrance gate that reflects these qualities.

We look forward to seeing alternative solutions.

Sincerely,

Shelby Van Meter

Eric,

Please accept this letter as a concerned 30 year resident/ property owner in sausalito.

The massive land fill and structure project proposed for the ferry terminal is not acceptable for the downtown of Sausalito.

The fact that residents of our community do not have input in our towns future is not within the spirit of your operation or our lease of the existing ferry terminal.

I realize Sausalito needs to work with you and your staff for your ADA compliance issues but to make our quaint town a small scale "pier 39 " will detract from our town charm which is why we're internationally renowned.

May I thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Robert O'Brien

Hello -

As I will be unable to attend the meeting on Thursday, I want to express my opinion regarding the ferry landing design: I think it would look beautifully as a new entrance to San Quentin - it has a certain "keep me imprisoned" look - but in my opinion, it would be a terrible choice for a ferry landing in Sausalito.

I would very much hope that a new, more suitable design, can be found.

Thank you.

Ulla Davis

Sausalito resident

For the record, we don't approve of the current plans for the Ferry Landing, as it is too large (grandiose?) for this small space and our little village.

Thank you,  
Jean & Bill Patterson

Willow Lane  
Sauslito, Ca.

FLOYD AND JANET DEAN

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)  
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 10600  
San Francisco, CA 94102-7019

Dec. 3 2014

Too big and ugly for Sausalito!

This letter is to object to the proposed Sausalito ferry landing 'improvements'. This design is completely out of scale and of an inappropriate urban design for our small, historic down town district. We do not need a bigger ferry terminal in our little village!

Sausalito ferry terminal is a commuter facility is not a transit hub!

Bicycles

The city of Sausalito is a small, charming village. Although we welcome visitors, the influx of rental bicycles has become a problem bringing a glut of bike traffic on our downtown streets and sidewalks. Especially, the danger of inexperienced, wobbly riders coming down our narrow streets is daunting. (babies in trailers, young children and seniors). There have been many injuries. The rental bike riders could take the safer road from the Golden Gate Bridge to Fort Baker and then the rental companies could pick up their bikes while riders take a much safer shuttle into Sausalito. We need to mitigate this dangerous rental bicycle traffic, not fill the bay to accommodate it.

There has been no open public forum on this plan. (Think Saturday community meetings)

The fact that the plan is not being shown to residents as a whole, (waterside and land-side) and that a 'flow through' grant has been provided to the city, (\$\$\$) only serves to alarm residents as to what this is really all about and who, (private enterprise?) is really behind it.

We, the citizens of Sausalito have always had to work hard to appose those who would overdevelop and ultimately destroy our small, charming, historic village. This is yet another battle.

Please deny this design and send them back for a greatly scaled down version.

Thank you!

Hello Eric,

Being a longtime Sausalito resident, a ferry commuter & cyclist, I'm very interested in what happens re the ferry landing in the center of our downtown.

I've attended 2 meetings & read extensively about the project. Clearly, the current ferry landing needs an update, and possibly also a re-design, to address issues of safety, increased crowds, & the transition to bicycle transportation. So here are some of my thoughts & requests, which I would like to have heard & considered.

\* There are more issues involved in the explosion of bicycle traffic than just the ferry landing & access. Our town has been heavily burdened by the sudden deluge of bikes that occurred 3 years ago. There has been much attention & planning to address the problems, including with the GGB district & S.F. bike rental businesses. Some progress has been made, and more is coming. A bigger plan is being developed to divert the S.F. bike crowds from riding into downtown, and instead having a staging area in the Fort Baker area. This will hopefully relieve the number of bikes relying on the GGFerry to get back to S.F. The current heavy demand is a temporary problem, and not a major or valid reason to over-expand the ferry landing area.

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I regret that I am unable to attend the meeting on Thursday 12-4-14. Please consider my thoughts & suggestions as the project evolves.

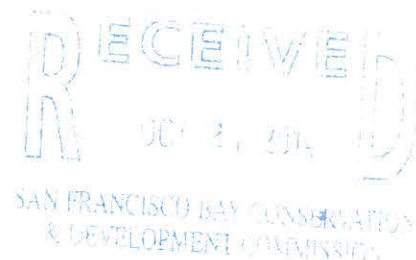
Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Joan Procter , resident of Sausalito

October 16, 2014

Erik Buehmann  
Coastal Program Analyst  
San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission  
455 Golden Gate Ave., Suite 10600  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.352.3645



Dear Mr. Buehmann;

I am writing in response to the design of the proposed Ferry Terminal at Sausalito. I will limit my comments to the most important element of this design which I believe to be the entrance gate to our city. I believe what has been provided, though an adequate design to get the job done, is in no way paying homage to the beauty or importance of Sausalito as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. To put it simply, the entrance gate is unseemly and utilitarian at best, and would make a great entrance to an Oakland Raiders football game.

I would recommend that the designers along with the City of Sausalito Planning Commission, with input from the Sausalito Historical Landmarks Board since this is in our Historic District, review a better design that actually fits in with our city's historical charm of the downtown area. We should really try to make the entrance to our city not appear as if we are entering a football game as we return home after a long day at work. At the very least the people who travel from all over the world deserve a more esthetic greeting either coming to Sausalito, or leaving on their way to San Francisco. I have offered an example that is quite nice that could be found as a welcome to Tiburon. Though it does not pay homage to the National Football League, it is rather pleasant and I believe a good example of what could be accomplished if some thought was placed into proper design and surroundings.

Best regards,

Alexander Kashef, DDS, MD  
Sausalito resident and property owner

CC: Jeremy Graves  
Sausalito Planning Commission  
Sausalito City Council  
Sausalito Historical Landmarks Board



